whether Government would consider to include tea gardens as a forest cover in any State of India for the purpose of computing the areas under forest cover of that State as tea trees of a tea garden have also effect in ecological balance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV):(a) The Forest Survey of India, in its latest State of Forest Report, 2001 has already included all lands with tree crops, including tea estates with trees, in forest cover.

Registration of cases for causing harm to forest and wildlife

†3209. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the cases registered for causing harm to forest and wildlife under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act during the last three years alongwith the areas where such cases have been registered;

(b) the number of persons found guilty thereof; and

(c) the number of persons punished alongwith the types of punishments given to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV):(a) to (c) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 deals with diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes. It does not deal with forest and wildlife offences. The forest and wildlife offences are delt as per the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and various State Forest Acts for the time being in force. The operational aspects of the said Acts are the responsibility of the various State/Union Territory Governments and therefore, records of such offences, number of guilty persons, punishments awarded to guilty persons etc. are also maintained by them. Government of India does not maintain such records.

World summit on sustainable development

3210. DR. A.R. KIDWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.